

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. At the outset, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to Claim 12. In accordance with the indication of allowable subject matter, Claim 12 has been written in independent form, as Claim 1, including the limitations of the claims from which it depends. Claim 11 has been amended to depend from Claim 1. In addition, Claims 2-10, 12 and 20 have been canceled. Claim 11, along with Claims 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 depend from Claim 1. Claim 18 depends from Claim 17. In addition Claim 19 which was rejected along the lines of Claim 1, has been rewritten with the same limitations as Claim 1 but in method format. Accordingly, all of the claims present in the application should be in condition for allowance.

As an additional point, Applicant notes that in the list of references filed by Applicant on November 24, 2003, the IDS listed one U.S. Patent 5,701,383 as well as two foreign publications. When the Examiner considered the prior art submission, the two foreign language documents were considered and initialed. However, the U.S. document, U.S. Patent 5,701,383 was never initialed. Accordingly, it is requested that the Examiner initial U.S. Patent No. 5,701,383, listed on the IDS filed on November 24, 2003 and send a copy of the initialed form with the Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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